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Finally, the author turns his attention to the theory that the average age of marriage is delayed by modern social conditions. He takes the average age of married men as a basis for calculation; and shows that it did not change appreciably, in the countries studied, between the early seventies and the early nineties. The concluding tables of average ages of married persons, and of average numbers of first marriages, in various occupations, are of less general interest. The author's final summary of this part of the paper is as follows:—

"The average age of married men has remained unchanged during the entire period of observation; it varies, only, to some extent, with the occupation. This variation concerns the age of the husband more than that of the wife; and it is not great enough to affect considerably the fecundity of the couples, even when the age of the husband is four or five years greater than the average for all occupations. In the various occupations the proportion of re-marriages bears no relation to the average age at the first marriage."

*La natalité selon le degré d'aisance.* By Jacques Bertillon. *Bulletin de l'Institut International de Statistique.* Vol. xi; 163.

Bertillon studies in this paper the relation of the birth rate to the prosperity of the citizens in the various districts and sub-divisions of London, Paris, Berlin, and Vienna. He classifies each district as either very poor, poor, comfortable, very comfortable, rich, or exceptionally rich, by applying certain arbitrary statistical standards. In Paris, for instance, five factors are used in this classification,—the proportion of female servants to households of two persons or more, the proportion of formal contracts to total marriages, the proportion of persons having any occupation who are registered as artisans, the proportion of persons living in over crowded tenements, and the proportion of the population receiving public aid. In the cases of Berlin and Vienna similar data are used relating to rents, population per room, over crowding, and numbers of domestics. For London a classification drawn up by Charles Booth in 1893 is used without alteration.

The figures for each district separately are given by Bertillon, and the districts of each group are then averaged. His final results may be grouped in the following table:—

NUMBER OF BIRTHS PER ANNUM FOR EVERY THOUSAND FEMALES BETWEEN 15 AND 50.

City.	Very Poor Districts.	Poor Districts.	Comfortable Districts.	Very Comfortable Districts.	Rich Districts.	Very Rich Districts.
Paris. (1889-93).....	108	95	72	65	53	34
Paris. (1889-93. Month of April).....	107	92	69	63	50	33
Berlin. (1886-94).....	157	129	114	96	93	47
Vienna. (1890-94).....	200	164	155	153	107	71
London. (1881-90).....	147	140	107	107	87	63

The Paris rates were calculated on the births in April alone to exclude any error introduced by the annual migration from the richer districts. The check between these figures and those for the whole year is noteworthy.

Such a classification as that upon which these calculations are based is open to the objection that the population studied may differ in other respects than their prosperity. For instance, the very fact that the richest districts are defined as the ones having the greatest number of persons engaged in domestic service, implies a large proportion of unmarried persons, and, therefore, a lower birth rate than the normal. Nevertheless the figures are so harmonious, and the differences between the classes of districts is so great, that Bertillon may be said to have added a strong piece of evidence to the theory of the inverse ratio of birth rates and prosperity.

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#### STATISTICS OF IMMIGRATION.

Beginning with July 1, 1898, a new system of collecting and tabulating statistics of immigration to the United States was put into operation by the Immigration Bureau of the Treasury Department. The results of the new system during the first year of its existence have recently been published in the report of the Commissioner-General for the fiscal year 1899.

The principal feature of the new system is that each immigrant is tabulated as to nativity by race instead of by the country of his